

Evening Public Ledger

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A FOUR-YEAR PROGRAM FOR PHILADELPHIA
Things on which the people expect the new administration to concentrate its attention:
The Delaware river bridge.
A dredge big enough to accommodate the largest ships.

CONNELLY'S SHIFT
All eyes look alike when they begin to fall. Your autocrat, or boss, in the last days of his power, sits among impudent and hopeless followers, refusing their advice and hoping against hope.

SCHOOLS AND THE ARMY
COULD a contest in essay writing in the public schools really help the army and those who recruit men for the service? At first glance the scheme which caused something of a flurry between the army officers and Doctor Garber appears like a waste of time for everybody.

THIS CITY'S LABOR OUTLOOK
Gossip and rumors inspired by the approaching expiration of belated war contracts, notably the discussions relative to Hog Island, would indicate that idleness must somehow become general when government work is out of the way.

FUTURE OF TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
ANNOUNCEMENT that Temple University is considering the erection of a building for its uses on the square in Broad street between Berks street and Montgomery avenue reminds one of the splendid work that this institution has done with meager equipment.

PEARY'S JOB AND OURS
THE word of the scientists must be taken concerning the benefits of the discovery of the North Pole. Mr. Dooley conjectured that "little Flora and Fauna" playing about up there might lend a fillip of interest to the bald white pate of this earth.

EVERYBODY IS HELPING
The world is waiting to learn whether its hopes of lasting peace are being buried in London, in Paris, at Rome or in the United States Senate.

THE ETHERAL ENIGMA
Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, telling the world that she wouldn't accept a seat in the United States Senate as a gift, may ease the mind of Senator Wadsworth, of New York, who actually might lose to a suffrage candidate.

THE LOCAL WOMAN WHO RISKED HER LIFE TO SAVE HER AGED MOTHER FROM A BURNING SIMPLY GAVE ANOTHER EXAMPLE OF THE EVERYDAY HEROISM WHICH IS SO COMMON AS TO BE COMMONPLACE; BUT NOT SO COMMONPLACE AS NOT TO AWAKEN ADMIRATION.

THE POLICE SAY THAT A DIAMOND EXPERT DECLARED HE WOULDN'T GIVE A DOLLAR APiece FOR SAMPLES OF THE STONES STOLEN BY AUTO THIEVES IN A DOWNTOWN STORE YESTERDAY. PERHAPS THAT FOUR PRINTS EXAMINED WERE THE PLATE-Glass BANDITS BROKE.

SENATOR MARTIN SAYS HE DOESN'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT HE'LL CALL ON MAYOR MOORE, BECAUSE HE DOESN'T KNOW WHETHER OR NOT THE MAYOR WISHES TO SEE HIM. AS A FEELER, THIS ISN'T HALF BAD.

FEBRUARY 29 WOULD BE AN EXCELLENT DAY ON WHICH TO PASS THE TREATY. THE SENATORIAL BITTER-ENDERS WOULD THEN BE SPARED THE PAIN OF ANNUAL CELEBRATIONS.

IF MOTORISTS CONTINUE THEIR CAMPAIGN FOR GOOD ROADS IT WILL GO FAR TO SOLVE FREIGHT TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS.

down from the gallery into the beautiful assembly room in the Harvard Union suggested to his companion some years ago what could be absorbed by daily contact with beautiful things when he said that he was brought up in a small town and when he first entered the assembly room of the Union he looked upon it with awe.

It is not likely that Temple University, with the limited sums at its command, can erect vast monumental buildings, but if it recognizes the value of beauty and gets as much of it as is possible in its new plant it will provide for its students something which they can get so easily in no other way.

TIME TO EMPOWER COUNCIL TO CONTROL EXPENDITURES

Legislative Interference With Local Expenditures in County Offices Is Intolerable
EXPENDITURE of money by public officers in Philadelphia should be under the direct control of the taxing and appropriating power of the city.

The so-called county officers are in many respects a law unto themselves. And where they do not exercise their own discretion they have been in the habit of going over the heads of the city authorities and securing laws in Harrisburg creating new positions and fixing salaries.

The Council has no discretion in the premises. It must appropriate the money to pay these salaries. Fortunately, however, the Council has a little control over expenditures of the county officers. There are some subordinate positions which it has created and which it can abolish.

The little power which the Council has over the money required to support the county departments is more likely to be exercised in order that money may be found to pay the imperative expenses of the city departments.

The last administration, it is now charged, pared the city appropriations to the bone and set aside generous amounts for the use of the county offices which remained in the control of the leaders who were dominant under Mayor Smith.

Mayor Moore and his associates are doing the right thing in examining into the payroll of these offices in order to discover how it can be reduced so that funds may be found to maintain the city departments and to give to the policemen and the firemen the pay to which they are entitled.

That the pay should be increased is admitted even by the Vares followers. Councilman Hall has introduced a resolution in the Council increasing the wage of the policeman to \$5 a day.

Council has power to transfer the money from the appropriations for county departments, whenever it sees fit.

While the Mayor and his assistants are working out the details of this plan it is expected that they will also begin to make plans to ask the Legislature next winter to repeal all laws fixing the salaries of subordinates in the county offices and to place the absolute control of the financial affairs of the county in the hands of Council.

To perfect the complete union between the county government and the city government a constitutional amendment will be necessary. Such an amendment applying to counties containing a city of the first class could easily be drafted, and if it were supported by the administration here it is morally certain that it would receive approval in Harrisburg.

But without waiting for a constitutional amendment the Legislature can do considerable to remove current abuses. Besides repealing the salary laws it can put the appointment of subordinates in the county offices under the supervision of the Civil Service Commission and remove them from purely political control, so far as that can be done by the application of the rule that no appointment shall be made save from an eligible list prepared after an examination to test the fitness of the candidates.

These changes are favored by every one save a few professional politicians. All that it needs to bring them about is the concerted action of those who are persuaded that the present conditions have been allowed to continue too long.

THE pole, a mere point in the ultimate northern ocean, fixed by trigonometry and the invaluable sextant, speedily ceased to be a topic of popular concern.

Admiral Peary himself centered upon an earned retirement. Until his death yesterday his claims upon our attention were infrequent. His courage and endurance were established facts. So, from the public standpoint, was the sterility of his persistent and successful quest.

The satisfaction of the savants and the aids which pole-finding, north and south, have contributed to the study of terrestrial phenomena and in particular of mysterious magnetics, are said to have made the labors of Peary, eight times undertaken, eminently worth while.

In any event, Peary and Amundsen ended the age which Prince Henry the navigator may be said to have begun—the modern era of the revelation of the elements of geography. Uncharted regions remain, but their frontiers are shrinking and the lure of grappling with the unknowable in its larger material aspects has departed.

It is man's justification for himself, his societies and his governments which stirs and baffles us today. Robert E. Peary's self-appointed task was arduous. He finished the job admirably, convincingly. The globe spinning on to new discoveries in a new era, the color of which cannot be definitely forecast, must almost envy, while it lauds, the American admiral.

He solved a riddle some six or eight thousand years old—no mean accomplishment on the eve of the age of doubt. THIS new institution would, in the words of the founders, "promote orderly and virtuous habits, diffuse knowledge and the desire for knowledge, improve the scientific skill of our mechanics and manufacturers, increase the benefits of the system of general education which is now adopted, and advance the prosperity and happiness of the community."

Among the founders, a beaurocrat of public-spirited Philadelphia of the first quarter of the nineteenth century, many of them represented by descendants in the city today, were Roberts Vaux, Philip Garrett, Clement C. Biddle, James Cresson, Thomas H. Leaming, Benjamin H. Yarnall, Samuel B. Morris, Robert M. Lewis, Henry Troth, Jacob Gratz, William Price, Samuel Sellers, William S. Vardere, Samuel Canby, Merritt Canby, Richard C. Wood, Richard Oakford, Anthony Finley, Benjamin Tucker, Frederick V. Krug, Philip F. Mayer and Lloyd Milfin.

THE library was first opened at what was then 100 Chestnut street. There were about 1500 volumes, and there were given out to apprentices on Saturday afternoons. Soon afterward a room in Carpenters' Hall was taken by the library, and there it stayed for seven years. In 1828 it was moved to the north side of Ludlow street, known at that time as Carpenter street.

The Franklin Institute had been opened shortly before on Seventh street, and most of the citizens who were interested in the Apprentices' Library were members of the institute. Later the books were moved to a building at Seventh street and Sugar alley (afterward Filbert street) which had housed the United States Mint for nearly forty years. At this time and for some time to come the Apprentices' was the only strictly free library of a general character in the city.

AT THAT time the members of the Free or Fighting Quakers abandoned their services in the old meeting-house at 19th and Arch streets. The managers of the library obtained a right to occupy the upper floor at a nominal rent, and there, for more than half a century, apprentices went for their books. Presently the entire property was devoted to their use.

In time the growth of the city made Fifth and Arch no longer desirable for the library purposes, and the Apprentices' moved to the Unitarian Church building, at Broad and Brandywine streets, in 1897. This was what Joel Cook called the focal point of an "educational region," the Central High School and other public schools, the University City, the Garden City, the industrial plants of the neighborhood providing a host of potential students, eager to read good books.

THE library, now free to all, still draws the larger number of its beneficiaries from the ambitious youth of the city. IN ITS hundred years, or since the day when Horace Binney ceased to be its official head, the Apprentices' has had eight presidents: John Sergeant, Henry Troth, Townsend Sharpless, James J. Barclay, Joseph H. Collins, Charles Roberts, Joseph R. Bhead, and now William M. Coxeter. Considerably more than one hundred thousand apprentices and those who have taken their place in the life of the city have been enrolled on the library's register and more than half a million readers have shared its benefits.

A modest but very substantial agent in the work of diffusing knowledge and the desire for knowledge, the Apprentices' Library has, in its hundred years of service, worthily carried out the desire of its founders to "advance the prosperity and happiness of the community."

"Mr. and Mrs. Ruffles" are said to have returned \$12,000 worth of jewels stolen from a Ventnor family after they learned there were finger prints in the possession of the police. They will probably handle their next case with gloves.

The local woman who risked her life to save her aged mother from a burning simply gave another example of the everyday heroism which is so common as to be commonplace; but not so commonplace as not to awaken admiration.

The police say that a diamond expert declared he wouldn't give a dollar apiece for samples of the stones stolen by auto thieves in a downtown store yesterday. Perhaps that four prints examined were the plate-glass bandits broke.

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APPRENTICES' LIBRARY

Centenary of Free Institution That Has Been an Inspiration and a Help to Thousands

ON FEBRUARY 24, 1920, the Apprentices' Library will celebrate its one hundredth birthday. Some years ago the Legislature repealed the law under which the apprentice system had flourished in Pennsylvania for at least three generations, but this ancient and honorable institution has continued to serve the needs of the public, and especially the needs of the boys and girls, with unabated vigor.

IN 1820 "free" libraries, in the latter-day sense of that term, were unknown, and places where books could be obtained by poor boys were very few and very limited in resources. Yet among the many thousands of apprentices in Philadelphia, boys who were "bound out" by indenture to learn the trade of their master, there were considerable numbers who wanted to spend their spare hours in reading, but whose masters, as a rule, had no books that appealed to them.

It was largely among practical-minded members of the Society of Friends that this want was recognized, and the belief held that if the lads could be put in the way of obtaining good books it would greatly lessen the mischief into which many apprentices fell when they were idle or had leave of absence from the city streets. Therefore, in the winter of 1820, a movement to accomplish this end was started by Thomas Kimber, Daniel B. Smith and Samuel K. Shober. They gained the assistance of a number of influential citizens, prominent among whom was Horace Binney, and the result was the formation of the "Apprentices' Library Co. of Philadelphia."

THIS new institution would, in the words of the founders, "promote orderly and virtuous habits, diffuse knowledge and the desire for knowledge, improve the scientific skill of our mechanics and manufacturers, increase the benefits of the system of general education which is now adopted, and advance the prosperity and happiness of the community."

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February 29 would be an excellent day on which to pass the treaty. The senatorial bitter-enders would then be spared the pain of annual celebrations.

THE WEEK'S LEFT-OVERS

LENT BEGAN
THE OLD MAN OF THE SEA—SON CONTINUES TO HANG ON.



FROM DAY TO DAY

WHILE the United States makes its King Idea the Conqueror Distrust Deposed Him Doubt Written in Covenant Wky England Saved Turkey Keeper at India's Gate Where Wilson Was Right

WHILE America declines to commit itself to the use of force in support of the league, Europe declines to trust too much to a league that does not rest upon sufficient forces. While America shrinks from the league as too much of an alliance, Europe makes a few alliances on the side in order to fall back on one in case of need.

Neither side trusts the reorganization of the world that a few months ago would make it safe for democracy. And the author of the reorganization sits in the White House in such a frame of mind that the official apologist is forced to write that he always had a bad temper, and that during recent years his weakened his control over it!

IT IS the final act of the great tragedy. In the history of men's beliefs or illusions comes to be written, more than one chapter will be devoted to the great moral empire of Woodrow Wilson.

Out of the war came the strangest phenomenon in history, not a dream of conquering by force and holding it in subjection to force, such as Napoleon had, and such as Alexander had, but a dream of conquering the world by an idea and holding it in subjection to an idea.

And this idea possessed men's hearts as no religion ever possessed men's hearts. The Christian religion took centuries to spread over its part of the earth. The moral empire rose in a year, subduing the minds of men over a larger section of the earth than has ever yielded to Christianity.

The chief priests gathered at Paris. Men saw that they were merely human. And worse, they themselves saw they were merely human. They saw too that the world was merely human.

TO MAKE the world safe for democracy, Turkey is to be preserved in Europe, in Constantinople, with subjects in Asia, perhaps—Lord Robert Cecil thinks so at least—perhaps in Armenia. Turkey has occupied a strategic spot on the map, the point that controls the road to the East.

England saved Turkey once to keep Russia from entering Constantinople. In Russia, in the old Byzantine capital, would have been an enemy holding the gateway to India. Turkey was a friend holding the gateway to India, a disreputable friend, it is true,

YOU THIEF

YOU entered my heart's domicile One lovely summer night; You broke each lock in easy style; Naught could resist your might.

You prowled so quiet on tip-toe, It really seemed you danced; When, strange to say, armed with his bow, Cupid this way had chanced.

And with his aid, and with a kiss, You blinded me entire, And in your bag you packed my bias, My love and all desire.

But you were caught, happy for me, And sentenced, dear, for life, To be to me eternally My dear, sweet, loving wife.

JOSEPH CARLTON PODOLYN.

What Do You Know?

QUIZ

- 1. Name three revolutions in which the Marquis de Lafayette played a prominent role?
2. On what day was George Washington born according to the calendar in use in America at that time?
3. Who said "Prejudice is the child of ignorance"?
4. What is the correct pronunciation of the word scenario?
5. When were the national colors adopted by Congress?
6. What is the nickname for the St. Louis baseball club in the National League?
7. How did foolscap get its name?
8. What are yams?
9. What celebrated eighteenth century author was called "The Inspired Idiot"?
10. Of what state is Montpelier the capital?

Answers to Yesterday's Quiz

- 1. Star chamber methods are tyrannical, arbitrary. The star chamber court was one of civil and criminal jurisdiction, which could proceed on mere rumor and apply torture. It existed in Westminster, London, and was abolished by the Long Parliament in 1641. The name is from the ceiling of the room in which it met, which was decorated with gilt stars.
2. Marco Bozaris was a noted Greek patriot distinguished for his services in the war which liberated his native land from Turkish rule. He was killed in the battle of Carpenis in 1823.
3. Illinois has the most railway mileage of any state in the Union except Texas.
4. At the time of his election as President, Benjamin Harrison was a citizen of Indiana.
5. The Golden Bull was issued by Andrew II of Hungary, in 1222. It contained guarantees of popular liberties, persuaded more by the modern than the medieval spirit. The edict has been regarded as a sort of Magna Carta of Hungary.
6. The fastest day's run ever made by an Atlantic liner was 670 knots. This record was made by the Mauretania in 1911.
7. The zebra is authoritatively defined as an African equine mammal, striped black or blackish on a white or buff ground.
8. The University of the Americas is the oldest in the American continent.
9. A wolverine is an American carnivorous mammal, allied to the glutton. It is also called carcajou and skunk-bear.
10. A pentagon is a five-sided plane rectilinear figure.